

# *fast* FACTS...

*about Sedgwick County Government*



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## *Sedgwick County Solid Waste Plan*

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Development

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### Who Develops Our Solid Waste Plan?

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) requires every county to develop a workable plan for the management of solid waste. KDHE also requires the establishment of a Solid Waste Management Committee to be responsible for the review and comment on this plan.

### Who serves on the Solid Waste Management Committee?

Sedgwick County has a 30-member Committee composed of general citizens, business representatives, solid waste haulers, recyclers, industry and others. This advisory committee helped to develop the current integrated solid waste plan, which was adopted in 1997 and updated annually.

### What does the current plan address?

The current plan addresses the need for waste minimization, which includes the need to recycle and compost. The plan also recommends the utilization of transfer stations for the removal of solid waste to a regional landfill. The need for researching new technologies for future long-term disposal options is also in the plan.

### What are the details of the current plan?

- The utilization of privately-owned transfer stations for the removal of solid waste to regional landfills.
- A ban on construction and demolition (C&D) debris from the transfer stations – this accounts for a 20% reduction in our waste stream.
- A ban on grass clippings and fallen leaves will be implemented at a yet-to-be determined date.
- Curbside recycling to be provided to all residents in the incorporated areas of the County who wish to receive this service. It is to be voluntary participation and mandatory subscription. The implementation date has not been determined.

- The building of a new, more convenient Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility.
- Implementation of a volume-based trash rate at a date yet-to-be determined.
- Continued use of free market system for collection of municipal solid waste.
- A 40% reduction goal in the disposal of waste at a municipal solid waste facility — with the C&D reduction, we are half way to our goal!

### What does this mean to the community?

- We have a system in place that works – trash is picked up and taken to local transfer stations.
- Recycling is available to citizens through area drop-off bins or through haulers for a fee.
- Sedgwick County operates a Household Hazardous Waste Facility that is centrally located and offers a "Swap & Shop" for residents to pick up usable items for free.
- Three Construction & Demolition waste landfills are located in Sedgwick County, which reduces volume at the transfer stations.

### What happens next?

The Solid Waste Committee has just completed a review of Sedgwick County's Solid Waste Plan. KDHE requires that every county's Solid Waste Plan be reviewed on an annual basis, and that a public hearing be held every 5 years. The purpose of the public hearing is to not only review the current plan, but to also receive input on the future of solid waste management practices for the next 10 years.

Sedgwick County will hold a public hearing on the plan in early April. Our 5-year plan update is due to KDHE by April 30, 2003.

Any changes to the plan require that the Board of County Commissioners hold a public hearing prior to amending the plan. There has been some discussion regarding the possibility of a local landfill as a disposal option. Adding this option would require a public hearing in the community prior to this change being submitted to KDHE.



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